Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1. (Original) A method of reordering packet fragments, said packet fragments being derived from a packet which has been divided into at least two fragments, each of said at least two fragments having a sequence number denoting a position in a proper sequence for correct ordering of each fragment for a reassembly of said packet, each fragment being represented by a head pointer, the method comprising:
 - a) receiving a received head pointer for a received fragment;
 - b) determining a sequence number for said received fragment;
- c) determining a first slot position for said received head pointer in a first tier pointer array, said first slot position being determined by the sequence number for said received fragment, said first slot position having a tier pointer pointing to a second tier pointer array;
- d) determining a second slot position for said received head pointer in the second tier pointer array, said second slot position being determined by the sequence number for said received fragments;
 - e) placing said head pointer in said second slot position; and
- f) repeating steps a) e) until a sequence of received head pointers stored in said second tier array indicates a complete sequence,

wherein

- a complete sequence is a sequence of head pointers that does not have a gap and includes a fragment that is an end fragment for said packet.
- 2. (Original) A method of reordering packet fragments, said packet fragments being derived from a packet which has been divided into at least two fragments, each fragment having a sequence number denoting a position in a proper sequence for correct ordering of each fragment for a reassembly of said packet, each fragment being represented by a head pointer, the method comprising:
 - a) receiving a received head pointer for a received fragment;
 - b) determining a sequence number for said received fragment;

- c) determining a slot position for said received head pointer in a pointer array, said slot position being determined by the sequence number for said received fragments;
 - d) placing said head pointer in said slot position:
- e) repeating steps a) -d) until a sequence of received head pointers stored in said array indicates a complete sequence,

wherein a complete sequence is a sequence of head pointers that does not have a gap and includes a fragment that is an end fragment for said packet.

- 3. (Original) A method as in claim 2 wherein said pointer array is found by referring to a locator pointer entry in a locator pointer array, said pointer entry being determined by said sequence number for said received fragment.
- 4. (Currently Amended) A method of resequencing fragments packet fragments forming portions of a data packet into a proper sequence for a reassembly of said packet, each fragment having a sequence number denoting a proper placement of said fragment in said reassembly, the method comprising:
- a) receiving a head pointer for a received fragment, said head pointer representing said received fragment;
- b) determining a reassembly session number for said received fragment, said reassembly session number denoting a home packet of which said received fragment is a part;
- c) determining if said home packet of which said received fragment is a part is currently being reassembled;
- d) if said home packet is currently being reassembled, determining which pointer array is being used in a reassembly of said home packet and placing said head pointer in said pointer array;
- e) if said home packet is not currently being reassembled, initiating a reassembly of said home packet by allocating a pointer array for said reassembly of said home packet;
- f) determining a slot position for said head pointer in said pointer array, said slot position being determined by the number for said received fragment;
 - g) placing said head pointer in said slot position; and
- h) repeating steps a) g) until a sequence of received head pointers stored in said array indicates a complete sequence,

wherein a complete sequence is a sequence of head pointers that does not have a gap and includes a fragment that is an end fragment for said packet.

- 5. (Original) A method as in claim 4 wherein said pointer array is found by referring to a locator pointer entry in a locator pointer entry in a locator pointer entry being determined by said sequence number for said received fragment.
- 6. (Original) A method of processing data frames in a multiple channel system, said data frames containing a payload, said payload comprising portions of a larger data transmission unit, the method comprising:
 - a) receiving a data frame:
 - b) determining with which channel said data frame is associated;
 - c) extracting a payload of said data frame;
- d) storing said payload at a memory location specifically associated with said channel;
- e) if previous payloads already stored at said memory location, appending said payload to said previous payloads; and
- f) repeating steps a) e) until a specific condition is met, said specific condition being chosen from the group comprising:
 - an amount of data stored in said memory location reaches a predetermined value; and
 - a payload received and data stored in said memory location relate to different data transmission units.
- 7. (Original) A method as is claim 6 further including reading out said data in said memory locations and transmitting said data to a different processing unit when said specific condition is met.
- 8. (Original) A method as in claim 6 wherein said data transmission unit is a data packet used for transferring data in network.
- 9. (Original) A method as in claim 6 wherein said data transmission unit is a fragment containing a portion of a data packet used in transferring data in a network.
- 10. (Original) A method as in claim 6 wherein said memory location is within a static random access memory (SRAM) bank.

- 11. (Original) A method as in claim 1 wherein said head pointer is a beginning pointer in a linked list of pointers, each pointer in said linked list of pointers pointing to a memory location in a random access memory (RAM) bank.
- 12. (Original) A method as in claim 2 wherein said head pointer is a beginning pointer in a linked list of pointers, each pointer in said linked list of pointers pointing to a memory location in a random access memory (RAM) bank.
- 13. (Cancelled)
- 14. (Cancelled)
- 15. (Cancelled)
- 16. (Cancelled)
- 17. (Cancelled)
- 18. (Cancelled)
- 19. (Currently Amended) A system for resequencing fragments packet fragments forming portions of a data packet, each of said fragments having a sequence number denoting a proper placement of said fragment in said reassembly and each of said fragments having a packet session number denoting a home packet of which said fragment is a part of, the system comprising:
- at least one pointer array for each resequencing operation for storing head pointers, each head pointer representing a received fragment, each head pointer being associated with a slot in a pointer array based on the sequence number of a fragment represented by said head pointer; and
- a lookup engine for determining if a fragment represented by a head pointer has a reassembly session number matching a resequencing operation being performed, wherein

in the event a fragment has a reassembly session number matching a resequencing operation being performed, its head pointer is placed in a pointer array for said resequencing operation.

- 20. (Original) A system as in claim 19 further including at least one locator/pointer array, said at least one locator/pointer array referencing said at least one pointer array such that each entry in a locator/pointer array refers to a pointer array.
- 21. (Original) A system for processing data frames in a multiple channel data transmission system, said data frames containing a payload, said payload comprising portions of a larger data transmission unit, the system comprising:
 - a data frame engine for extracting a payload from said data frames;
 - a partial packet processor for storing payloads extracted from said data frames;
- an internal memory bank controlled by said processor such that said payloads are stored in said memory bank,

wherein

a specific memory location in said memory bank is allocated for each channel such that payloads from a specific channel are stored in said memory location.

- 22. (Original) A system as in claim 21 wherein if a received payload from a specific channel and previously received payloads stored in said specific memory location allocated said specific channel are from a single larger data unit, said received payload is appended to said previously received payloads.
- 23. (Original) A system as in claim 21 wherein if a received payload from a specific channel and previously received payloads stored in said specific memory location allocated for said specific channel are not from a single larger data unit, said previously received payloads are retrieved from said bank and transferred to a next stage and said received payload is stored in said specific memory location.
- 24. (Withdrawn) A method of selecting a link on which to transmit data in a multiple link system, the method comprising:
- a) determining an amount of data queued for transmission on each link in said multiple link system;

- b) determining which link in said multiple link system has the most data queued for transmission:
- c) selecting a link with a least amount of data queued for transmission as the link on which to transmit data; and
- d) if all links in said multiple link system have equal amounts of data queued for transmission, selecting each link in sequence as the link on which to transmit data.
- 25. (Original) A multiple stage system for processing data stream on a multiple link system, said system comprising;
- a first stage for receiving data frames and extracting and storing payloads from said data frames;
- a second stage for rebuilding fragments from said payloads of said data frames;
 and
- a third stage for resequencing said fragments for eventual retransmission to a high speed data link,

wherein

each of said fragments forms a portion of a data packet, each of said fragments having a sequence number denoting a proper placement of said fragment in said reassembly and each of said fragments having a reassembly session number denoting a home packet of which said fragment is a part.

- 26. (Original) A system as in claim 25 wherein said first stage comprises:
 - a data frame engine for extracting a payload from said data frames;
 - a partial packet processor for storing payloads extracted from said data frames;
- an internal memory bank controlled by said processor such that said payloads are stored in said memory bank,

wherein

a specific memory location in said memory bank is allocated for each channel such that payloads from a specific channel are stored in said memory location.

- (Original) A system as in daim 25 wherein said second stage comprises:
- a memory bank for storing data chunks, each data chunk being a portion of a fragment;

- a linked list pointer table, said pointer table having a record of which specific memory locations in said memory bank are used by specific data chunks wherein

each data chunk relating to a specific fragment is stored in a specific memory location, an address of such specific memory location being placed in said pointer table and linked to addresses of previously stored data chunks.

- 28. (Original) A system as in claim 25 wherein said third stage comprises:
- at least one pointer array for each resequencing operation for storing head pointers, each head pointer representing a received fragment, each head pointer being associated with a slot in one of said at least one pointer array based on the sequence number of a fragment represented by said head pointer; and
- a lookup engine for determining if a fragment represented by a head pointer has a reassembly session number matching a resequencing operation being performed, wherein

if a fragment has a reassembly session number matching a resequencing operation being performed, its head pointer is placed in a pointer array for said resequencing operation.

29. (Cancelled)